**Laboratory Safety Rules, 2012-2013**

**Geraldine Public Schools**

**Mr. Rocksund**

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Working in the laboratory is arguably the most hazardous part of a science classroom. Please take a few minutes to review these laboratory safety guidelines. Once you are finished, please sign and have your parents sign the last page to indicate that you have read and understand the safety rules for performing laboratory work in the science classroom. Lab work for seventh and grade science will not use many chemicals during lab. However, it is still important to review proper safety and handling procedures in the lab as the students will still be using laboratory equipment (i.e. Bunsen burners). Thank you so much for taking the time to read this document!

Mr. Rocksund

1. Study your lab assignment before you come into the lab. If you have any questions, ask your teacher for help. Most of the labs will come directly from the textbook. If otherwise, I will provide you with a lab outline prior to the day of the lab.

2. Do not perform experiments without your teacher’s permission. Never work alone in the laboratory. Know how to contact help, if necessary.

3. Pay close attention to safety symbols and precautions in each lab. Read and adhere to all *WARNING* statements.

4. Wear safety goggles and a laboratory apron whenever you are in the lab. Wear gloves whenever you use chemicals that cause irritations or can be absorbed through the skin. If you have long hair, you tie it back.

5. Avoid wearing loose, draping clothing and dangling jewelry. Wear only closed-toe shoes in the lab.

6. Immediately clean up spills on the floor and keep all walkways clear of object, such as backpacks, to prevent accidental falls or tripping. Report any accident, injury, incorrect procedure, or damaged equipment to your teacher.

7. Keep food, beverages, and chewing gum out of lab. Never eat in the lab.

8. Know where to find and how to use the fire extinguisher, safety shower, fire blanket, first-aid kit, and gas and electrical power shutoffs.

9. Handle all chemicals carefully. Check all labels of all bottles before removing the contents. Read the label three times: before you pick up the container, when the container is in your hand, and when you put the bottle back.

10. Know the correct procedure for preparing solutions. If you don’t know, ASK!

11. Use test tubes, paper, or beakers to obtain chemicals. Take only small amounts. It is easier to get more than to dispose of excess.

12. Do not return unused chemicals to the stock bottle.

13. Do not insert droppers into reagent bottles. Pour a small amount of chemical into a beaker.

14. Never smell, taste, or touch any chemicals.

15. Keep combustible materials away from open flames.

16. Handle toxic and combustible gases only under the direction of your teacher. Use the fume hood when such materials are present.

17. Use caution and proper equipment when handling hot apparatus or glassware. Hot glass looks the same as cool glass.

18. When heating a substance in a test tube, be careful not to point to mouth of the test tube at another person or yourself. Never look down into the mouth of a test tube.

19. Do not heat graduated cylinders, burettes, or pipettes with a laboratory burner.

20. Dispose of broken glass, unused chemicals, and products of reactions only as directed by your teacher.

21. Keep your workspace and communal workplaces (i.e. balance area) clean.

22. After completing an experiment, clean and put away your equipment. Clean your work area. Make sure the gas and water are turned off. Wash your hands with soap and water before you leave the lab.

23. BE SAFE! Think before you act in the lab.

Please sign below to indicate that you have read and understand the Laboratory Safety Rules for Geraldine Science. Thank you!

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Student signature Date

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Parent/ Guardian signature Date